

**Amendment to Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Original) A blend comprising a paraffin wax emulsion and a polymer emulsion, said polymer emulsion comprising a polymer containing polymerized units of one or more C<sub>1-12</sub> esters of acrylic or methacrylic acid and a vinyl ester of a C<sub>8-13</sub> neo-acid, said blend, when applied as a coating to a substrate and dried, has a hydrostatic head barrier sufficient to prevent passage of aqueous fluids but allow passage of water vapor through it; said substrate selected from the group consisting of a nonwoven web, a nonwoven absorbent pad, a nonwoven textile, and a textile fabric.

2. (Original) The blend of claim 1 wherein the polymer has polymerized units of:

- (a) 5 - 40 wt % of a vinyl ester of a C<sub>8-13</sub> neo-acid;
- (b) 30 - 80 wt % of a C<sub>1-12</sub> alkyl ester of acrylic acid or a C<sub>1-12</sub> alkyl ester of methacrylic acid;
- (c) 0 - 20% wt % of a vinyl ester of a saturated aliphatic acid;
- (d) 0 - 30 wt % ethylene, styrene or butadiene;
- (e) 0 - 20 wt % a di-(C<sub>1-13</sub>)alkyl maleate or a di-(C<sub>1-13</sub>)alkyl fumarate;
- (f) 0 - 5 wt % of a hydroxyalkyl acrylate or a hydroxyalkyl methacrylate;
- (g) 0 - 5 wt % acrylamide or methacrylamide; and,
- (h) 0 - 10 wt % of an alpha, beta-ethylenically unsaturated monocarboxylic acid, based on the total weight of monomers in the polymer.

3. (Currently Amended) The blend of claim 1 wherein the polymer has polymerized units of:

- (a) 15 - 30 wt % of a vinyl ester of a C<sub>8-13</sub> neo-acid;
- (b) 40 - 70 wt % of a C<sub>1-12</sub> alkyl ester of acrylic or a C<sub>1-12</sub> alkyl ester of methacrylic acid;
- (c) 0 - 10 wt % of a vinyl ester of a saturated aliphatic acid;
- (d) 0 - 20 wt % ethylene, styrene or butadiene;
- (e) 0 - 10 wt % a di-(C<sub>1-13</sub>)alkyl maleate or a di-(C<sub>1-13</sub>)alkyl fumarate;
- (f) 0 - 5 wt % of a hydroxyalkyl acrylate or a hydroxyalkyl methacrylate;

- (g) 0 - 5 wt % acrylamide or methacrylamide; and,
- (h) 0 - 10 wt % of an alpha, beta-ethylenically unsaturated monocarboxylic acid

4. (Original) The blend of claim 1 wherein the hydrostatic head barrier is at least 60 mm.

5. (Original) The blend of claim 1 comprising, on a 100 % dry weight solids basis:

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 10 - 90 wt % | Polymer Emulsion                               |
| 10 - 90 wt % | Paraffin Wax Emulsion                          |
| 0 - 80 wt %  | Water Soluble Polymer or<br>Protective Colloid |
| 0 - 5 wt %   | Fluoro Surfactant                              |
| 0 - 10 wt %  | Other components                               |

6. (Original) The blend of claim 1 comprising, on a 100 % dry weight solids basis

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 20 - 80 wt % | Polymer Emulsion                               |
| 20 - 80 wt % | Paraffin Wax Emulsion                          |
| 0 - 10 wt %  | Water Soluble Polymer or<br>Protective Colloid |
| 0 - 3 wt %   | Fluoro Surfactant                              |
| 0 - 5 wt %   | Other components                               |

7. (Original) The blend of claim 1 wherein the polymer emulsion has a  $T_g$  of -15 °C to -70 °C.

8. (Original) The blend of claim 1 wherein the paraffin wax emulsion further comprises polyethylene wax, carnauba wax or ethylene acrylic acid.

Claims 9-24 (Canceled).